STATEMENT-II

Year		Name
1995-96	(1)	Shri N. Dasgupta, Regional Manager, SEBI
	(2)	Shri C.R. Das, Regional Director, Department of Company Affairs, Calcutta
	(3)	Shri M.K Barua, Managing Director, Assam Industrial Development Corporation (AIDC)
1994-95	(1)	Shri N. Dasgupta, Regional Manager, SEBI
	(2)	Shri C.R. Das, Regional Director, Department of Company Affairs, Calcutta
	(3)	Shri J.N. Sarma, Managing Director, AIDC
1993-94	(1)	Shri N Dasgupta, Regional Manager, SEBI
	(2)	Shri C.R Das, Regional Director, Department of Company Affairs, Calcutta

Restriction on Mutual Fund

4385. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Securities and Exchange Board of India has imposed restriction upon the Mutual Funds of the companies including the Unit Trust of India not to float any right or bonus issues till it is decided that these issues are in the interest of the investors, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI P CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) and (b). SEBI has stated that it has taken a decision to permit rights issues for closed-ended schemes subject to the condition that the unit holders be given repurchase facility at NAV related prices. The repurchase facility is expected to protect the interests of investors.

Demand of Salt

4386. SHRI K. PARASURAMAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been an increase in the demand of Indian Salt in the countries like Japan, Phillippines, Singapore, etc.; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to increase production of salt in the country particularly in Tuticorin and coastal area of Chengal Pattu District of Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. There has been increase in the export of salt to Japan and Phillippines However, no definite trend is available from other countries

(b) Following steps have been taken by the Government to increase salt production in the country:

(i) New areas are being identified for salt manufacture;

(ii) Salt manufacturers are being impressed upon to bring undeveloped areas under salt cultivation;

(iii) To improve productivity, guidance is given to salt manufacturers to relay salt works on scientific lines;

Production of salt in Tuticorin & Chengal Pattu area has almost reached its optimum potential. However, some new areas have been identified which are under the process for settlement for salt cultivation.

Small Scale Industries

4387. SHRI SULTAN SALAHUDDIN OWAISI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether SSIs have identified shortage of power, inadequate demand, inconsistent Government policies, inadequate credit, high cost of raw materials and shortage of skilled manpower as constraints operating for growth in output;

(b) if so, whether these constraints have been listed in the Confederation of Indian Industry's 11th business outlook survey on small industry for the period October, 1996 to March 1997;

(c) if so, the coverage of survey conducted; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to help the Small Scale industries in regard to above shortcomings?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. Small Scale Industry Associations in general, in their representations to the Government have been stating shortage of power, inadequate demand, inconsistent Government policies, inadequate credit, high cost of raw materials and shortage of skilled manpower as constraints for growth in output.

(b) Some of these constraints like inadequate demand/lack of orders, inconsistent Government policies, shortage of skilled manpower, lack of credit have been listed in Confederation of Indian Industry's 11th business outlook survey on small industry for the period October, 1996 to March, 1997.

(c) The 11th Survey of Confederation of Indian Industry covers 400 small indusry units engaged in industrial activities like metal products, transport equipment, electrical machinery, electronics, non-metallic components, auto parts, etc., located all over the country.